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BRIEF MENTION.

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association of America will be held at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, on December 28, 29 and 30. On the evening of the 28th an address of welcome will be given by President D. C. Gilman, of the Johns Hopkins University, after which will follow an address by the President of the Association, Franklin Carter, President of Williams College, Mass. On the 29th, the usual two sessions will take place and in the evening a social entertainment will be tendered the Convention. On the 30th, session and excursion to Washington. Papers have been reported by several of the leading modern language Professors both North and South.

Reduced fares on the following Railways have been obtained and orders for tickets are already in the hands of the secretary, Prof. A. M. Elliott, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, for distribution to all those who may wish to avail themselves of these lowered rates:

Penna. R. R. Division; Philadelphia and Erie R. R. Division; United R. Rs. of N. J. Division; Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore R. R.; Northern Central Railway; Baltimore and Potomac R. R.; Alexandria and Fredericksburg Railway. Negotiations are in progress for obtaining like privileges on the railways running South and West from Baltimore. Applications for excursion-ticket orders should be made as soon as possible. A printed slip will be sent out shortly, giving all details pertaining to the Convention such as hotels, place of general rendezvous, hours of meeting, papers to be read, etc., etc.

An excellent school edition of Byron's *Childe Harold*, prepared by Mr. H. F. Tozer, Fellow and Tutor of Exeter College, Oxford, has been published at the Clarendon Press. The book opens with introductory essays, occupying 52 pages, on the "Life of Lord Byron," under which head special sections treat of "His Character," "His Religious Opinions," "His Literary Characteristics," "His influence on Literature," etc. These themes are of necessity discussed in a highly condensed style, but the condensation is that of full knowledge and of clear impressions, resulting, as it must, in a

valuable form of suggestiveness. Then follows an "Essay on the Art, Style, and Versification of the Poem," illustrating with ample material the characteristics of the poet's art, his figuration, verse-structure, etc. Finally, the large body of "Notes" (pp. 190-336), placed at the end of the book, gives still better evidence of the editor's purpose to supply to elementary classes that sort of help that they have learned to look for in the series of texts to which Mr. Tozer's *Childe Harold* belongs, as, for example, the German classics edited by Prof. Buchheim. In clearing up obscure passages involved in peculiarities of grammatical construction, or in historical and mythological allusions, the editor, by usually maintaining uniformity of judgment and fitting moderation in details, has for the better part escaped those puerilities in which "notes" of this class are seldom wanting.

We have received the first two of a series entitled 'University French Texts,' selected by Prof. Ferdinand Bôcher, of Harvard University, and reproducing *original* or characteristic editions. They are all to be unexpurgated and complete texts, designed for college classes. No. 1., Montaigne, 'De L'Institution Des Enfants,' is the original text (1580) of the twenty-fifth Essay of Book I; No. 2., Molière, 'Le Misanthrope,' is a reproduction of the original edition 'Le Misanthrope. Comedie par I. B. P. de Molière, chez Jean Ribou, 1667.' No. 3., Racine's 'Andromaque,' a reproduction of the text of 1697,—the last printed in the life-time of Corneille,—is about ready. Prof. Bôcher has been happy in his selections and the series promises more valuable material from sixteenth and seventeenth century texts, as well as from those of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. We learn that the Montaigne, as given here, was printed some time ago for private use and proved so valuable that it was thought expedient to publish a number, especially of these older works that are impossible to get in this country for class purposes. It is the first time with us that these complete older editions have been placed within reach of teachers and it is to be hoped, therefore, that the series may meet with the recognition which it so richly deserves. The form of it is handy and the typography admirable. Charles W. Sever, University Bookstore, Cambridge, Mass., is the Publisher.